

## Beamer Baby Bolero

*Moonbeam? Sunbeam? Starbeam? All of those can apply to a baby – they radiate their emotions so honestly, even in their sleep. This bolero radiates, too, to form the rounded front that slightly overlaps in the middle. It is knit cuff-to-center and Kitchener stitched together at the center back. There are not too many total stitches; but pay attention and read ahead because the changes happen quickly!*

**Gauge:** appropriate to the yarn. Stockinette stitch at 5 st/in will fit a premie to smaller newborn; or at 4.5 st/in a newborn.

### Supplies

- Light to heavy worsted weight yarn, about 120 yds  
*-but get extra if you want matching booties or socks*  
*-of course you will use the softest washable natural fiber you can find*
- 5 double point needles to get an appropriate gauge for the yarn  
*-or needles for your favorite method of knitting in the round*
- 16 to 29 in circular needle of the same size as the double points (lighter weight yarn requires shorter needle)
- 6 markers
- safety pin or locking stitch marker
- waste yarn for holding stitches
- yarn needle

### Abbreviations

st	stitch
K	knit
P	purl
inc	increase 1 stitch

*Best increase for this pattern: lifted “make one increase” <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEwinter09/FEATwin09TT.php>*

K2tog	knit 2 stitches together, decreasing one stitch leaning to the right
SSK	slip 2 stitches individually as if to knit, then slide both back to the left needle and knit them together through the back loops, decreasing one stitch leaning to the left
P2tog	purl 2 stitches together, decreasing one stitch
k rnd	knit the remaining stitches to complete the round
sl	slip the stitch or marker as if to purl
M1, M2, Mf, Mb, Mn	markers, named for their location
w&t	wrap & turn, <i>instructions can be found here</i> <a href="http://www.knitty.com/ksbbb.php#ksbbb">http://www.knitty.com/ksbbb.php#ksbbb</a>

*You can switch to the circular needles whenever this seems to work for you. This may be when you start knitting back and forth at row 35, or not until the outer garter st edge.*

### Begin at cuff for each sleeve

Cast on 30 st, join for knitting in the round, making sure not to twist.

*I like a [cable cast-on](#) because it matches the bind off edge.*

Knit 3 rows in garter stitch beginning with a purl row. Place a marker (M1) at the beginning of the rounds.

Row 1	Purl
Row 2	Knit
Row 3	Purl

Begin stockinette st and place a 2nd marker (M2) after the 3rd st

*Note: there are always 3 st between the markers though row 24.*

Rows 4-6	Knit
Row 7	K to M1, inc ( <i>before the marker</i> ), sl M1, K3, sl M2, inc ( <i>after the marker</i> ), k rnd (32 st)
Repeat rows 4 – 7	a total of 5 times. (40 st)

Row 24 Knit, place a pin or locking stitch marker 10 st before M1 to designate the start of the rounds for the following directions

*Now the increases begin in earnest as the section between the markers expands rapidly and the “radial” section is added. There will be a third marker added at the neck. Because the right and left sides are mirror images, the markers are named according to their anatomical place to avoid confusion – see the diagram.*

*The rows are listed in a table to help make it easier to follow. One table row is one worked row or round.*

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### Right Sleeve

Markers: M1 becomes Mb at back M2 becomes Mf at lower front Mn will be placed at front neck  
 Slip the marker when it is listed.

Row		Marker	Section under right arm (Mb to Mf)	Marker	Front radial section (Mf to Mn)	Marker		# st Mb to Mf	# st Mf to Mn	Total st
25	K10, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K1, inc, K1	Mf	Inc, K3, inc, place Mn	Mn	SSK, k rnd	5	5	44
26	Knit									
27	K11, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K3, inc, K1	Mf	K2, inc, K1, inc, K2	Mn	SSK, k rnd	7	7	48
28	Knit									
29	K12, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K5, inc, K1	Mf	Inc, K7, inc	Mn	SSK, k rnd	9	9	52
30	Knit									
31	K13, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K7, inc, K1	Mf	K2, inc, K5, inc, K2	Mn	SSK, k rnd	11	11	56
32	Knit									
33	K14, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K9, inc, K1	Mf	K4, inc, K3, inc, K4	Mn	SSK, k rnd	13	13	60
34	Knit									
35	K15, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K11, inc, K1	Mf	K6, inc, K1, inc, K6	Mn	SSK, k rnd	15	15	64
36	Knit to marker Mn, K2, K10 & place these 10 st on a holder, K rnd									

Now the knitting begins back and forth instead of in the round. Increases at markers continue in established pattern.  
 Switch to the circular needles if or when it seems convenient.

37	K16, inc	Mb	K1, inc, K13, inc, K1	Mf	K1, inc, K13, inc, K1, sl Mn, w&t (wrap SSK st, turn and sl wrapped st and Mn back to right needle)			17	17	69
38	Purl to held st, turn (Pin marking start of round may be removed, it is no longer needed.)									
39	K to Mb, inc before marker	Mb	K1, inc, K15, inc, K1	Mf	K3, inc, K11, inc, K1, w&t (wrap 2nd st before Mn)			19	19	74
40	Purl to held st, turn									
41	K to Mb, inc before marker	Mb	K1, inc, K17, inc, K1	Mf	K5, inc, K9, inc, K1, w&t (wrap 4th st before Mn)			21	21	79

Now only the "radial" section is worked, and a rounded corner is shaped at Mf.

Row	Front radial section (Mf to Mn)	# st Mb to Mn	Total st
42	P16, w&t (wrap st before Mf)		
43	K6, inc, K7, inc, K1, w&t (wrap 6th st before Mn)	23	81
44	P15, w&t (wrap 2nd st before Mf)		
45	K7, inc, K5, inc, K1, w&t (wrap 8th st before Mn)	25	83
46	P14, w&t (wrap 3rd st before Mf)		
47	K8, inc, K3, inc, K1, w&t (wrap 10th st before Mn)	27	85
48	Purl to held st, lifting the 3 wraps and knitting them with their wrapped st as you come to them		

Break yarn, leaving 36" length to be used for the Kitchener st later.

Put the 25 st between the halting point and Mb on one holder or waste yarn. Remove Mb marker. Place the other 60 st (including 10 held st) on a separate holder or waste yarn.

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### Left Sleeve

Begin at cuff as for right sleeve through row 24. Notice that the markers are in a different order for the left!

Markers: Mn at front neck M1 becomes Mf at lower front M2 becomes Mb at back

Row		Marker	Front radial section (Mn to Mf)	Marker	Section under left arm (Mf to Mb)	Marker		# st Mn to Mf	# st Mf to Mb	Total st
25	K5, K2tog, place Mn	Mn	Inc, K3, inc	Mf	K1, inc, K1, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k rnd	5	5	44
26	Knit									
27	K4, K2tog	Mn	K2, inc, K1, inc, K2	Mf	K1, inc, K3, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k rnd	7	7	48
28	Knit									
29	K3, K2tog	Mn	Inc, K7, inc	Mf	K1, inc, K5, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k rnd	9	9	52
30	Knit									
31	K2, K2tog	Mn	K2, inc, K5, inc, K2	Mf	K1, inc, K7, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k rnd	11	11	56
32	Knit									
33	K1, K2tog	Mn	K4, inc, K3, inc, K4	Mf	K1, inc, K9, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k rnd	13	13	60
34	Knit. At end of rnd place 10 neck st on a holder as follows: turn, sl 1 st to right needle, then place next 10 st on a holder, turn, sl 1 st back to right needle. (Two st remain on left needle before Mn marker.)									

The next row will begin the section of knitting back and forth instead of in the round. The pin marking the start of round may be removed, it is no longer needed. Switch to the circular needle if or when it seems convenient.

35	K2tog	Mn	K6, inc, K1, inc, K6	Mf	K1, inc, K11, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, knit to held st, turn	15	15	64
36	Purl to Mn, sl Mn, w&t (wrap K2tog st, turn & slip Mn back to right needle)									

Row	Front radial section (Mn to Mf)	Marker	Section under left arm (Mf to Mb)	Marker		# st Mn to Mf	# st Mf to Mb	Total st		
37	K1, inc, K13, inc, K1	Mf	K1, inc, K13, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k to held st, turn	17	17	69		
38	Purl to 2 st before Mn, w&t (wrap 2 <sup>nd</sup> st before Mn)									
39	K1, inc, K11, inc, K3	Mf	K1, inc, K15, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, k to held st, turn	19	19	74		
40	Purl to 4 st before Mn, w&t (wrap 4 <sup>th</sup> st before Mn)									

Now only the "radial" section is worked, and a rounded corner is shaped at Mf.

Row	Front radial section (Mn to Mf)	# st Mn to Mf	# st Mf to Mb	Total st
41	K1, inc, K9, inc, K4, w&t (wrap st before Mf)	21	19	76
42	P14, w&t (wrap 6 <sup>th</sup> st before Mn)			
43	K1, inc, K7, inc, K5, w&t (wrap 2 <sup>nd</sup> st before Mf)	23	--	78
44	P13, w&t (wrap 8 <sup>th</sup> st before Mn)			
45	K1, inc, K5, inc, K6, w&t (wrap 3 <sup>rd</sup> st before Mf)	25	--	80
46	P12, w&t (wrap 10 <sup>th</sup> st before Mn)			

Now work all sections.

Row	Front radial section (Mn to Mf)	Marker	Section under left arm (Mf to Mb)	Marker		# st Mn to Mf	# st Mf to Mb	Total st		
47	K1, inc, K3, inc, K11, picking up and knitting 3 wraps with their wrapped st	Mf	K1, inc, K17, inc, K1	Mb	Inc, K to held st, turn	27	21	85		
48	Purl, picking up and purling 6 wraps with their wrapped st. Purl 10 st from holder. Halt. Do not break yarn.									

Place the 25 st between Mb and the held st on a double point needle. Remove Mb marker (60 st on circular needle).

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### Finishing

Attach sleeves together at center back in the following way:

Join together the 25 st from the back left sleeve and 25 st of the back right sleeve with the [Kitchener](#) st using the 30" end of yarn from the right sleeve.

After completing the Kitchener st do not break the yarn but use it to pick up and knit 4 st along bottom back, and place these 4 st on the circular needle.

Place the 60 held st from the right sleeve onto the circular needle. (124 st on the needle)

Use the yarn from the left sleeve neck to pick up and knit 14 st across back neck edge.

*It takes a bit of planning and patience to do this neatly because the Kitchener st results in a half row jog.*

Then slip the next neck st on right sleeve, wrap yarn from wrong side to right side and slip st back to right sleeve needle.

Turn.

### Garter Stitch Edge

*Note: markers remain at Mn and Mf on both sleeves.*

Begin to work in the round on the knit side. Place a pin or marker to mark the beginning of the round.

Purl around (138 st) picking up 6 wraps at the right sleeve radial section and purling them with their worked st.

Next round (*remove the markers as you come to them*): SSK, K10, K2tog, K to 2 st before left sleeve Mn marker, K2tog, K to left sleeve Mf marker, inc, K to right sleeve Mf marker, inc, K to right sleeve Mn marker, SSK, K rnd. (136 st)

Purl one round.

Bind off.

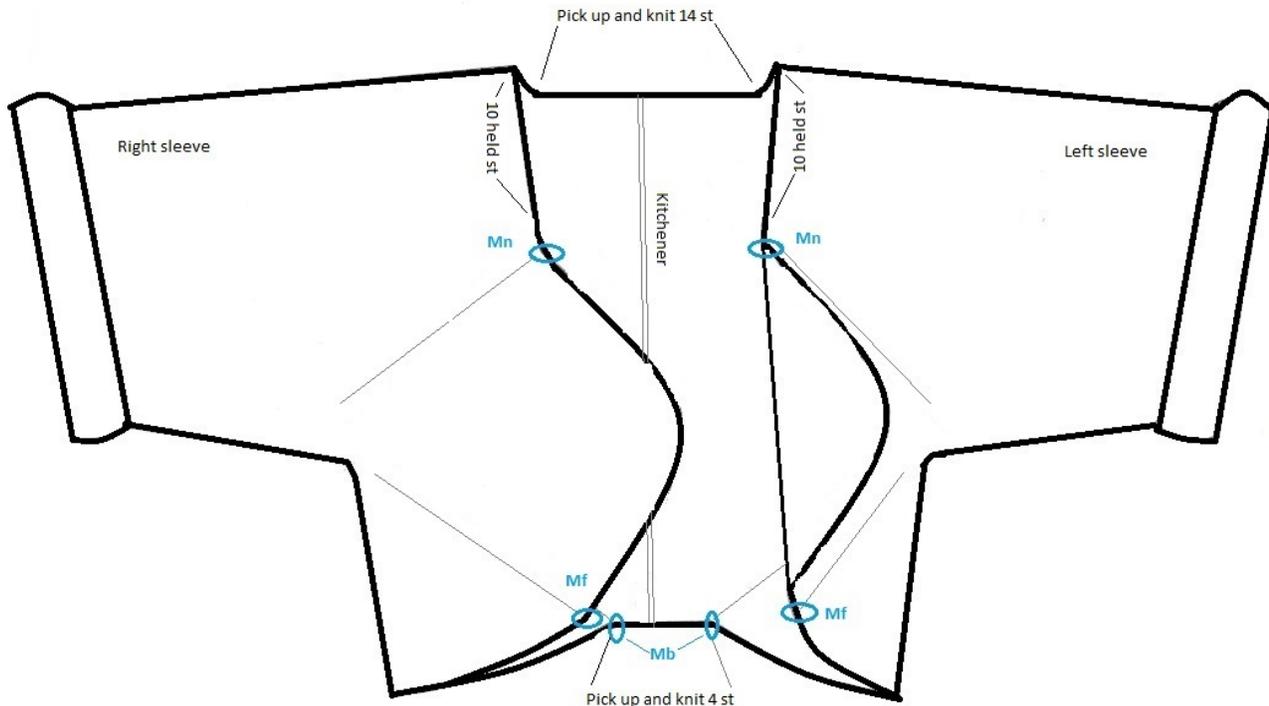
*My favorite bind off: S11, K1, bring yarn fwd, sl both st back to left needle, P2tog*

*\*K1, bring yarn fwd, sl both st back to left needle, P2tog\*, repeat between \* until 1 st remains.*

*Cut yarn, pull end through last st.*

Weave in ends neatly. Block.

Make your favorite baby bootie or socks to match. Give to deserving baby...and aren't they all?



*If you enjoyed the construction of this bolero and want to knit for a growing baby, you may want to consider*

[\*Babies and Bears Sweater by Carol Anderson and Kristi Williams\*](#)

*It is a hooded cardigan knit cuff to center and sized for babies and toddlers. The Babies and Bears cardigan inspired this bolero. Thanks to CA and KW for permission to make this bolero pattern available!*

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